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1. Although electricity is used for illumination in cities, labor camps and agriculutral localities, kerosene is also widely used. In many backward rural areas, particularly in the north and in certain regions of Siberia, tallow smoke lamps are used, and in some cases people don't have any lighting at all and must retire as soon as it gets dark. Candles are used for lighting in many places where the supply of electric power and kerosene is inadequate.

2. Guaranteed illumination facilities for municipal populations can be divided approximately into three categories:

   (a) Cities, the inhabitants of which are sufficiently provided with complete illumination facilities, electricity, kerosene and candles. Large regional and industrial centers and cities adjoining regions where there are large electric power stations have complete electric facilities. In such places not more than 5% of the people use kerosene for their lighting needs.

   (b) Cities, the populations of which are provided with more or less satisfactory electric power, although with intermittent delay. Illumination by kerosene and similar means is inadequate. Medium size cities and the provincial cities of the northern and central zone areas of Siberia and Central Asia. I assume that in those cities approximately 85% of the houses are provided with electric current and approximately 15% of the houses use kerosene lighting constantly. However, practical experience shows that 75% of the population in those cities have and use kerosene lamps. The fact

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is that first priority of electric power is given to industrial needs and establishments. The needs of the people are secondary. Quite often the electric current to the houses is cut off. This is done periodically according to different areas. In many cities it is done in the following manner: In a given month for approximately 8-10 days, residential areas are cut off from the electric power stations. For example, this will occur in the Lenin area of a city and in the following month the same thing will occur in the Stalin area of the city. This is done in turn. Usually the central area of a city is not cut off from electric power and the inhabitants living in that section are in a very advantageous position. Some border and urban areas are without electric power for months. Concerning this it is necessary to take into account any number of circumstances: Time of the year, character of the industrial enterprise, quality and character of the electric power station, etc. The problem of supplying the populace with electric power in the winter is much worse than it is in the summer time. I think that in a given group of cities approximately 20% of the populace is provided with electric power at all times. Approximately 65% of the populace is supplied with electric power irregularly with at least five days of interruptions per month. Finally 15% of the populace has no electric lighting at any time. In that given group of cities it is often difficult to buy kerosene and candles. Commercial organizations do not regularly supply the populace with kerosene. The sale of kerosene always gave rise to much speculation. I know of cases where the inhabitants of Michurin went to Saratov for kerosene and the inhabitants of Stepnaya went to Astrakhan to buy kerosene.

(c) The third category includes average size cities and provincial cities, the populace of which also is satisfactorily supplied with electric power (although with interruptions) and well supplied with kerosene. These cities are located near petroleum areas and near transportation routes and storage depots. The distribution of the populace according to the degree of their accessibility to electric power is approximately the same as in the previous group.

3. In relation to the agricultural populace it is difficult for me to furnish complete information. I can say only the following: Although at the present time Soviet writers write much about the projects for supplying electric power to the collective farms, it has long been known in the USSR that it is only a propaganda line. The overwhelming majority of the villages in Astrakhan, Stalingrad, Saratov, Rostov-on-the-Don and many other areas are entirely without electric lighting. Only some suburban areas, those near large cities with large electric power stations, have electric illumination. It is my belief that at the present time [1954] 90% of the villages do not have any electric lighting. If the journal "Ogonyok" writes about the electrification of collective farms, it must be remembered that they are the model collective farms in the Moscow oblast and in some places in the Ukraine. I heard from inhabitants that the kerosene lamp is used inclusively in Astrakhan, Stalingrad, Saratov and others. This lamp is installed in a vial with a wick soaked in kerosene and is called the "Lenin lamp." [redacted] comment: The irony of this is that it is the answer to Lenin's promise of electrification in all villages.] 50X1

4. Thus I consider that at lease 90% of the villages in the Soviet Union are deprived of electric lighting and these villages can be divided into two groups according to the extent to which they are provided with kerosene, candles and other non-electrical means of illumination:

(a) Villages which are poorly provided - at least 75%.

(b) Villages which are more or less satisfactorily provided - 25%.

5. The following types of kerosene lamps are used in municipal homes where kerosene illumination is necessary:

(a) Five-thread wick lamp - small and dim.

(b) Seven-thread wick lamp - more light.

(c) Ten-thread wick lamp - more dispersion.

(d) "Molnii (lightning) lamps" - various dimensions of light with circular wicks.

(e) Lanterns"Flying Bats."

6. Most of the homes generally need one ten-thread wick lamp. "Lightning" lamps are rarely encountered and now are preserved as museum pieces. The government prohibits their use. The general-type lamp used is home made and of poor quality. Two or three lamps are a luxury and the people having them usually have steady access to kerosene and glass chimneys. It is difficult to buy chimney lamps in the USSR. I have frequently seen "ersatz-chimneys" made from broken preserving jars being sold at the markets. Quite frequently one may find two lamps in homes of the inhabitants mentioned in the third group who are well supplied with kerosene. Five and seven-thread wick lamps without chimneys are usually found in the villages. Often one finds a lamp which consists of a wick dipped in a container of kerosene.

7. If one is to discuss the length of time a kerosene lamp is burned in the home it is necessary to take into account the time of the year, the amount of kerosene on hand and the area of the country. For example, in the summer time the days in Odessa or Astrakhan are shorter than in Leningrad and Moscow. If a person living in the city needs to use a kerosene lamp, the length of burning in the winter time will be up to five hours as opposed to two or three hours in the summer time.

8. The burning time of kerosene lamps is much shorter in the villages than in the cities. This is explained by the difficulty in obtaining kerosene and by the fact that the villagers retire much earlier than city people. The burning time is three hours in the winter and from one to one and a half hours in the summer.

9. The price of kerosene varies in different localities in the Soviet Union. The state price for one liter of kerosene in Astrakhan in 1951 was 1 ruble 7 kopeks. I think that at the present time one liter of kerosene in Astrakhan costs about 90 kopeks. In the central cities of the country kerosene is about 10-15% more expensive. In 1951 a liter of kerosene costs 90 kopeks in Baku.

10. The populace in Astrakhan is well supplied with kerosene. Kerosene is sold at special kerosene retail stores and is also carried to various parts of the city by means of special cisterns installed on a horse-drawn wagon and is sold directly to the people,

11. The people in large districts and industrial centers are well supplied with electric power and kerosene for preparing food. In the winter time they use much firewood and combine heating the quarters and the preparation of food. More people use kerosene than electricity for cooking because it is much cheaper.

12. In the remaining cities which are inadequately supplied with kerosene the food is prepared in wood stoves. There are two types of combination stoves in the USSR: the combination Holland stove which has a small built-in range for cooking or a combination Holland stove together with a Russian range and oven for preparing food. Thus, depending upon the time of the year and other circumstances, the people can use one part or the entire stove.

13. In cities where kerosene is provided normally, kerosene is used for cooking.

14. In localities where there is little forest area and where the kerosene supply is inadequate a "mangala" is used for the preparation of food. This gadget (mangala) is a metallic structure with three or four legs. Underneath it is a fire of small woodchips, shavings, dung etc. Pots and pans are set on top of the "mangala" for cooking and boiling. In Central Asia and in the Caucasus, the type mangala used is a bucket coated with clay equipped so that a fire may be built in it or dishes placed in it.

5. Kerosene cooking devices are:

(a) Primus - rarely used and very difficult to get spare parts for. The jets and the adapters are very difficult to get. The type of primus which I have seen had only one burner.

(b) Kerosene stove - sometimes called the "Greek Fire." They are either double or triple wicked. The wicks are of cotton as are those in the kerosene lamps but much wider, about 10-12 centimeters in width. They are not economical but give much heat.

"Lighting"

(c) Kerosene gas stoves - this apparatus has been extensively used in the USSR since World War II. It resembles a kerosene stove except that its wick burns as the result of kerosene vapor gas instead of the wick being soaked in kerosene. This vapor from kerosene is called kerogas. The wick in the kerogas stove is made of asbestos in a cylindrical shape. It is very difficult to purchase a wick for a kerogas stove. I have heard the inhabitants say that if the wick is burned out it is better to buy a new kerogas stove than to attempt to purchase a new wick. The quality of the kerogas stoves is very poor and frequently they explode and are the cause of many fires. The kerogas stoves which I have seen had one or two burners. The burner is circular and has a cylindrical wick, the diameter of which varies from 10-14 centimeters.

16. The daily burning period of the kerosene cook-stove depends on several things: The size of the family, time of the year, etc. I think that the average burning period of the kerosene apparatus is from two to four hours a day. The burning period for cooking foods is longer during the warmer part of the year.

17. The kerosene apparatus is not widely used in the agricultural areas and cooking is done either with wood stoves or mangalas. I think that only about 15% of the agricultural populace use kerosene apparatus for preparing food.

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